

Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 EUR-12 L-03 PRS-01 STR-04

SNM-02 DEAE-00 /071 W

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R 021138Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5326

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 8455

DEPARTMENT PASS EXIM BANK AND OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, APAP, US, IV

SUBJECT: FNCB OPENING IN IVORY COAST

REFS:

A) ABIDJAN 8375

B) ABIDJAN 8181

1. WITH REGARD TO PARAGRAPH 5 OF REFTTEL, THERE HAS NOW BEEN PUBLISHED EIGHT DAYS AFTER THE EVENT, ON PAGE 5 OF FRATERNITE MATIN, A FOUR-PARAGRAPH ARTICLE, LAUDATORY OF FNCBBS ACTIVITIES IN PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT OF IVORY COAST, ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPH OF RIBBON BEING CUT BY SECRETARY OF THE STATE FOR THE BUDGET, ABDOULAYE KONE. INCLUDED IN THE PHOTOGRAPH ARE MR. ROBERT E. GRANT, FNCB NAIROBI, US AMBASSADOR, JOE PEGUES, FNCB ABIDJAN, M. LAMINE DIABATE, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE WEST AFRICAN CENTRAL BANK, AND M. LEON NAKA, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPT SERVICING AGENCY.

2. WITH RESPECT TO IVORIAN SENSITIVITIES TO FRENCH, HOWEVER,
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IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT IMMEDIATELY ABOVE ARTICLE ON FNCB

WAS ARTICLE WITH LARGER PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING CUSTOMS OFFICIALS
HOLDING THREE BAGS CONTAINING 30 KILOS OF HASHISH DISCOVERED
ABOARD "AFRICAN NEPTUNE" OF FARLELL LINES AS REPORTED TO
DEPARTMENT (REF B). THIS IS ALSO OLD NEWS THAT HAD NOT
PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS. ONE CANNOT ASSUME
COINCIDENCE WHEN CONSIDERING GOVERNMENT CONTROL OVER
FRATERNITE MATIN'S PUBLISHING PRACTICES.
SMITH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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